

DOCKET NO: 202938US67



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE

IN RE APPLICATION OF :
DAHONG QIAN, ET AL. : EXAMINER: PATEL, H.
SERIAL NO: 09/777,959 :
FILED: FEBRUARY 7, 2001 : GROUP ART UNIT: 2154
FOR: GROUP-BROWSING SYSTEM :

RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT

COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
ALEXANDRIA, VIRGINIA 22313

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Technology Center 2100

SIR:

In response to the Restriction Requirement dated June 10, 2004, applicants provisionally elect with traverse Group I, claims 1-11 and 14-22. That Restriction Requirement asserts that the application contains claims to distinct inventions. However, MPEP § 803 states the following:

If the search and examination of an entire application can be made without serious burden, the Examiner must examine it on the merits, even though it includes claims to distinct or independent inventions.

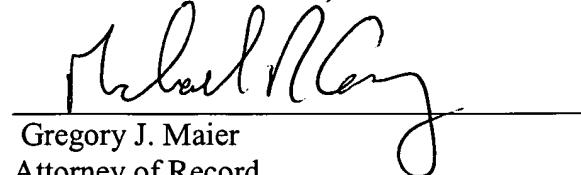
The claims of the present invention would appear to be part of an overlapping search area. Accordingly, applicants respectfully traverse the Restriction Requirement on the grounds that a search and examination of the entire application would not place a *serious* burden on the examiner.

U.S. Application Serial no. 09/777,959
Reply to Office Action dated June 10, 2004

Therefore, it is respectfully requested that the requirement to elect a single group be withdrawn, and that a full examination on the merits of claims 1-24 be conducted.

Respectfully submitted,

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Docket No.: 202938US67

COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
ALEXANDRIA, VIRGINIA 22313

RE: Application Serial No.: 09/777,959

Applicants: Dahong QIAN, et al.

Filing Date: February 7, 2001

For: GROUP-BROWSING SYSTEM

Group Art Unit: 2154

Examiner: PATEL, H.

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SIR:

Attached hereto for filing are the following papers:

RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT

Our check in the amount of \$0.00 is attached covering any required fees. In the event any variance exists between the amount enclosed and the Patent Office charges for filing the above-noted documents, including any fees required under 37 C.F.R. 1.136 for any necessary Extension of Time to make the filing of the attached documents timely, please charge or credit the difference to our Deposit Account No. 15-0030. Further, if these papers are not considered timely filed, then a petition is hereby made under 37 C.F.R. 1.136 for the necessary extension of time. A duplicate copy of this sheet is enclosed.

Respectfully submitted,

OBLON, SPIVAK, McCLELLAND,
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